

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-10 and 12-65 are pending.

Informal Matters

To complete the filing requirements for the substitute specification filed August 9, 2004, the undersigned believes that the substitute specification contains no new matter.

A further objection to the specification was raised in connection with updating the current status of the related applications referenced therein. The substitute specification as filed August 9, 2004 has been updated accordingly.

Formal Matters

Claims 1-10 and 12-55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second paragraph.

Claims 1-10 and 12-65 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the invention as claimed was deemed to be directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 1-10, 12-29, 31-39, 40-63, and 65 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for allegedly being anticipated by Shah et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,822,738.

Claims 1-10, 12-29, 31-39, 40-63, and 65 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for allegedly being anticipated by either Carroll et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,470,327 or Bator et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,619,544.

Claims 30, 40, and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for allegedly being unpatentable over either Shah et al., Carroll et al., or Bator et al. as applied to claims 1-10, 12-29, 31-39, 40-63, and 65.

Telephonic Interview

On April 19, 2005, an interview was conducted with the examiner. The examiner's patience and attention are much appreciated. During the interview, the undersigned was given the opportunity to explain the differences between the invention and the cited references. A discussion of the claim rejections was made to gain more understanding as to the examiner's bases for the claim rejections. This was followed by a discussion of proposed claim amendments that were believed would overcome the rejections.

The independent claims have been amended. For convenience, a clean copy of independent claims 1, 13, 23, and 42 is listed below.

Section 112 rejections - As amended, the claims more clearly recite the interconnections among the various recited aspects of the present invention. For example, the claims recite "a client system" for sending requests to a first server.

Section 101 rejections - As amended, the claims are believed to be directed to statutory subject matter. For example, independent claim 13 recites computer program product executing on a data processor. Independent claim 1 recites a first server "generating" HTML content in response to receiving a request from a client system. As amended, the functioning of the machine (e.g., first server system) is altered in response to receiving certain information, and so the claimed subject matter is not merely a hypothetical mental exercise, but rather is directed to a concrete and tangible application.

Section 102 rejections - As amended, the claims more clearly distinguish over the individual references to Carroll, Shah, and Bator. For example, Carroll does not show a first server and a second server separate from the first server, where the second server dispense postage. Similarly, Shah does not show first web server receiving requests from a client system and in response communicating with a second web server that generates postage indicia. Shah does not show a first web server receiving the postage indicia and then generating HTML content that is then transmitted back to the client system. Bator, likewise, does not show a server the generates HTML content and a separate server that generates postage indicia. The Section 102 rejection is believed to be overcome.

Section 103 rejections - It is believed that the combined teachings of Carroll, Shah, and Bator also fail show the aspects of the present invention as recited in the pending claims.

Appl. No. 09/708,913
Amdt. dated May 2, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 9, 2004

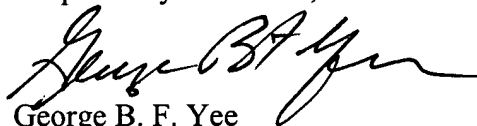
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, all claims now pending in this Application are believed to be in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



George B. F. Yee
Reg. No. 37,478

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
GBFY:cmm
60389076 v1